

## THE NON-COMBATANT.



A casual sacrifice to political ambition.

that he had a better knowledge of conditions than they and that if necessary he would die at his post. The incident then closed abruptly.

President Madero told the Tribune correspondent that it was untrue that De la O, one of the principal rebel chieftains to the south, either was in the city or was approaching it under orders from Diaz.

"We have all avenues of approach to the city patrolled and guarded," said Madero. "Thus far there have been no considerable bodies of rebels within many miles—no nearer than they have been for months, in fact. A hundred of them attacked Ajusco (a small town on the mountainside overlooking the city) yesterday, but, although the garrison consisted of only twenty soldiers, they were driven off."

President Madero asked that contradiction be made of reports that matters between the United States and Mexico reached at any time during the last week nearly as acute a stage as reported.

"Our information from the United States," said he, "positively is that no orders have been issued or are likely to be issued to land marines or troops or to send them to the capital. It would be an almost criminal act to do so, unless there is a much more grave excuse or provocation than now exists. I cannot bring myself to believe that your country will go that far unless things grow very much worse."

When the Tribune correspondent was talking to Madero no reply had been received by him to his message to President Taft.

It is impossible to ascertain specifically what caused the rupture of the armistice, which was broken at 2 o'clock this afternoon by the simultaneous discharge of the guns of Cuadela and the investing forces. The firing was not heavy, but it caused a hasty scattering of thousands of persons who were taking advantage of the truce to view the ruin resulting from the artillery duel.

The British Minister sent a cable message to his government this morning saying that, although the firing had ceased, the situation still was very uncertain.

## AMERICANS KILLED OR INJURED IN MEXICO CITY

**KILLED.**  
R. N. MEREDITH, Troy, Ohio, agent for the National Cash Register Company, struck by bullet in the Porter Hotel. Two days previously Meredith was wounded.  
HERMAN O. WEISS, civil engineer, of Washington and New York, said to have been shot to death.  
MRS. H. W. HOLMES, wife of an employe of Dun's, killed in home.  
ALLIS BLAND, Griffiths, legs shot off.

**WOUNDED.**  
SIDNEY SOUTHERLAND, reporter for the "Mexican Herald" and correspondent for several American newspapers, shot in the leg while standing near R. N. Meredith in the Porter Hotel.  
An American boy, named LASAN, wounded by flying shot.  
MRS. GREENFIELD, mother of Harry Greenfield, employe of the Mexican Light and Power Company, struck by shell.  
DR. R. H. MCCRESSON, Lincoln, Neb., finger shot off.  
MARK JOHNSON, negro, Madison, Wis., shot through shoulder.  
F. L. RAMSEY, Galveston.  
ALLIS BLAND, printer, shot through arm.

**ASSAULTED.**  
ENSIGN EDWARD GUTHRIE and SURGEON CAMERON, of the United States steamship Denver, attacked by mob at Acapulco.

## CUBA TO LAND TROOPS

Washington, Feb. 16.—The cruiser Cuba, flagship of the Cuban navy, reached Vera Cruz today, according to a dispatch received to-night at the Cuban Legation.

It was said at the legation that a special permit had been secured from the Madero government under which infantry and artillery would be landed from the Cuba and taken to Mexico City to guard the Cuban Legation and to protect Cuban citizens.

## WARSHIP SPEEDS HOME.

Valparaiso, Chile, Feb. 16.—The Mexican warship Morales, which arrived here several days ago, sailed early to-day at full speed for the west coast of Mexico, on orders from the Mexican Minister of Marine.

## ARMY IS READY FOR WAR

In Better Condition than Ever Before, Says General Wood.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)  
Washington, Feb. 16.—"Preparedness" in the event of a sudden war is the object of the reorganization of the army which became effective yesterday, according to Major General Leonard Wood, chief of staff. He believes that the United States is now better prepared for war than at any time in the history of the country.

At the beginning of every war," says General Wood, "this country has suffered defeat, loss of life, vast expenditures, and a useless prolongation of war, with all its attendant miseries, because the country has been utterly unprepared, the army was not organized or prepared when the war began, and the commanders of larger units, such as brigades and divisions had had no opportunity to handle such before. So far as we can we intend to mitigate the evils of unpreparedness by having a semblance of a real army organization and giving officers and men the practical training and experience they need to fit them for soldiers." Continuing General Wood further explained:

We expect to give brigade commanders responsibility for training tactical brigades, and handling them in maneuvers at least once a year. It is the intention to relieve these commanders of administrative work, leaving their hands free for straight military service. We also intend to have an organized brigade ready for service at all times so that if it is necessary to send it abroad such a brigade can be designated and ready to move at once.

What has been done is but a starter. We have gone so far as we can administratively in order to complete a reorganization of troops so that the plan for effective organization as contemplated by the General Staff may be put in operation. We should have to obtain appropriations from time to time in order to bring the organizations together for proper training.

Under the new system the division commanders will look after the administration of the army, leaving the brigade commanders free to train the troops. It is absolutely necessary that regiments be brought together and assembled in brigades at different times in order that the colonels and other field officers as well as generals should have experience in handling their commands as actual tactical units.

"By the new system, the coast artillery will be under its own officers and handled as a branch of the army, and instead of having the army in jumbled lots as heretofore with cavalry, infantry, field artillery and coast artillery in small detachments under one command, the various arms will be under their own officers for military training and under a division commander for administrative purposes," General Wood declares.

## FEAR OUTBREAK ON BORDER

Entire National Guard of Texas May Take Field To-morrow.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)  
Austin, Tex., Feb. 16.—According to advices received to-day by Governor Colquitt and Adjutant General Hutchins, the situation all along the Mexican side of the Rio Grande is worse than at any time since the revolutionary troubles began in Mexico, more than two years ago.

Persons living on the Texas side are making complaints of inadequate military protection. Several raids on ranches by armed bands of Mexicans are reported from points along the lower Rio Grande on the Texas side of the river. Unless United States troops are sent to the border in sufficient numbers to protect lives and property by to-morrow night, Governor Colquitt will order the entire Texas National Guard to river points, to perform guard and patrol duty. The Legislature will be asked to appropriate \$100,000 to defray this cost.

Large forces of rebels are moving toward Matamoros and Maderas Negras, both border cities. Advice from Eagle Pass says that Monterrey is surrounded by rebels, and the city may be attacked within the next few hours.

Governor Colquitt sent a telegram to President Taft, urging intervention by the United States, and received the following reply from Secretary of State Knox:

"The policy of the President remains unchanged, subject, of course, to the evolution of the general situation and the ultimate effect of the sudden crisis of events occurring since Sunday at the Mexican capital."

## PRESIDENT WILL NOT MEDDLE IN MEXICO

Cabinet, in Session Until After Midnight, Resolves to Maintain Attitude of Non-Intervention.

## AGREE ON MADERO REPLY

Americans Seek Protection of Battleships at Vera Cruz—Situation Is Growing Worse, Reports Ambassador Wilson.

Washington, Feb. 17 (Monday).—Secretary Knox of the State Department was directed by President Taft to reply early this morning to the request of President Francisco I. Madero of Mexico for a definite statement of the policy of the United States toward Mexico.

The Cabinet, which was in session for more than two hours, adjourning at 12:40 a. m., spent the time discussing the terms of the reply. Though no official statement was given out, it was declared that Secretary Knox would state that the attitude of this government would remain just as it had been for two years past.

The exact nature of the reply was not disclosed, and it was stated that the note would be dispatched to Madero at once and probably would be made public later to-day.

Upon leaving the White House Secretary Knox reiterated that intervention was not now contemplated, nor would there be any change in the naval or military plans relating to Mexico.

Major General Wood, chief of staff, on leaving the War Department before the Cabinet meeting ended declared that no additional orders to troops had been given. He said it was not thought necessary to increase the patrol on the Texas frontier at Laredo and Brownsville, as requested by Governor Colquitt of Texas.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Feb. 16.—After conferring for some time this evening with the Secretary of State, President Taft issued a call for a meeting of the entire Cabinet. The call was responded to by every member with the exception of Secretary Wilson. The Cabinet was still in session at a late hour.

Mr. Knox laid before the President a long resume of reports from Ambassador Wilson picturing in detail the revolt of Diaz and the efforts of Madero to suppress it. The proposed reply of this government to Madero's request not to land troops or marines in Mexico also was considered.

Despite the alarming information that has continued to come into Washington for the last few days, not a member of the President's Cabinet favored intervention when summoned to to-night's meeting. Most of the official family believes that the Mexican factions will solve their own troubles, and are of the opinion that interference by the United States is uncalled for at this time.

Conditions Growing Worse.

Latest advices from Ambassador Wilson indicate that the situation in Mexico City is "growing steadily worse" despite the short armistice, and the fact that President Madero has yielded to the more insistent demands of the American Ambassador. Americans and other foreigners took advantage of the cessation of hostilities to flee from the danger, many Americans, especially women and children, departing for Vera Cruz, where they expect the United States battleships to afford protection.

Ambassador Wilson declares that there is "no improvement whatever in the situation." The message containing this disquieting information was sent to-day.

A large landing force will be available at Vera Cruz in the event of a crisis demanding protection to Americans at that port, and it is believed that the marines and bluejackets would be able to cope with almost any situation that might arise. There is grave danger, however, for the Americans remaining in Mexico City.

The President was plainly disturbed to learn that communication between Mexico and the United States was precarious and that an apparently strict censorship had been instituted by Mexican authorities. His fear has been that just such a condition might arise and that Americans in Mexico City might find themselves facing a situation like that which existed in Peking during the Boxer rebellion.

There was little doubt expressed here to-night that if a censorship is being exercised this government will demand that the communications from Ambassador Wilson and its replies

shall be permitted to go through without interruption. It does not propose to have the slender thread that connects the American colony with Washington interfered with for an instant.

Will Spare Residential Section.

The demands formally presented by the American Ambassador, who was accompanied by the German Minister, and which have been conceded by President Madero, General Huerta assenting, are announced by the Department of State as follows:

First—that the federal forces should be so disposed as not to cause any firing over the foreign residential section in attacking the citadel.

Second—that the neighborhood of the Embassy should be treated not only as an embassy, but also as a place of refuge, a zone being established to cover that neighborhood which would thus enjoy a special character of immunity due to humanitarian establishments.

Third—that an American committee, for the purpose of establishing centers of food distribution to the poor, should be joined by the government in its efforts.

Fourth—that soldiers who have been placed on certain public buildings, notably one being used as a place of refuge, and upon certain American buildings, should be taken away.

Fifth—that in order to make it possible for the American rescue committee to remove from dangerous places, Americans lacking a supply of food and to take them to safer places there should be a three hours' armistice.

Sixth—that there should be an armistice of twelve hours to enable foreigners to leave the city by rail. The ambassador informs the department that the above agreement has been publicly posted, and that consequently the American colony is much gratified.

Bullet Hits Diplomat's Auto.

Ambassador Wilson says further that he had a conference in the early hours of Saturday, February 15, with the British, German, Spanish and French diplomats at the American Embassy. The meeting was brought about with great difficulty, the automobile sent to convey Mr. Stronge, the British Minister, having been struck by federal bullets, although occupied by a federal colonel and six soldiers as a guard.

As a result of this discussion, the Spanish Minister proposed to visit the Palace to speak unofficially to President Madero, in behalf of the four ministers and the American Ambassador. The meeting at the American Embassy broke up at 3 o'clock, the British Minister remaining there for the night because of the difficulty of crossing the danger zone to reach the British Legation.

On Saturday morning the Spanish Minister went to the Palace and conferred with President Madero. Immediately thereafter thirty Senators made an unsuccessful effort to have an audience with Madero. It is reported that the Senate had voted that Madero be asked to resign by a vote of twenty-seven to three. Those present constituted a majority, but not a quorum.

On emerging from the Palace, certain Senators are said to have hurraed the populace, calling for support of the legislative power and hinting that this course was necessary to prevent intervention.

## CHESTER LORD QUITS "SUN"

Resigns After 41 Years' Service, Begun Under Dana.

Chester S. Lord has resigned from the staff of "The Sun" after forty-one years of service on that newspaper, during thirty-two years of which he had been its managing editor.

"For a number of years," Mr. Lord said last night, "I have been anxious to relinquish this active work. The duties of managing editor of a big New York newspaper demand constant, unremitting, alert attention all day long and far into the night, and I feel that I have had my share of them in the thirty-two years I have held the place."

"I came to 'The Sun' forty-one years ago, and Mr. Dana made me managing editor in 1880, and I recall with pleasure that for seventeen years thereafter, until his death, I was his right hand man. I have participated actively in eleven Presidential campaigns, beginning with that of 1872, in which I reported the campaign speeches of Horace Greeley. I am glad despite the protests of all my associates here, and for the sole reason that I want to relinquish some of my activities."

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